

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 7 and 31 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 6, 15, 22-23, 29-30, and 42 as indicated below.

1. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a plurality of web servers running the distributed authoring and versioning (WebDAV)

enabled hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) coupled to the internet; and

a plurality of personal computers coupled to the internet, each personal computer

comprising an operating system extension that forwards file system requests

involving file systems stored on one of the plurality of web servers to a network

access application program on the personal computer that sends the file system

requests as at least one WebDAV or HTTP request to an appropriate web server,

wherein the file system requests are received by a file system of the operating system

communicatively coupled to the operating system extension as ordinary file

system requests from an application that is not aware of WebDAV or HTTP

protocol.

2. (Original) The system of Claim 1 wherein the network access application program processes a plurality of responses to the file system requests received as WebDAV or HTTP packets and passes the responses to the operating system extension which forwards information from the responses.

3. (Original) The system of Claim 2 wherein the file system requests involving file systems stored on one of the plurality of web servers originate from an operating system client, and the information from the responses is forwarded to the operating system client.

4. (Original) The system of Claim 3 wherein the operating system client is any of a plurality of user accessible application programs.

5. (Original) The system of Claim 4 wherein the operating system extension and the network access application program communicate with each other via sockets.

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6. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a file system request involving a remote file system from an operating system extension, the operating system extension receiving the file system request as an ordinary file system request from an application unaware of a hypertext transfer protocol or distributed authoring and versioning (HTTP/WebDAV) protocol;
creating a ~~hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) or distributed authoring and versioning (WebDAV) formatted request (HTTP/WebDAV formatted request)~~ an HTTP/WebDAV formatted request in response to the file system request;
forwarding the HTTP/WebDAV formatted request to an appropriate WebDAV enabled HTTP server;
receiving a response from the WebDAV enabled HTTP server; and

transferring an information contained in the response to the operating system extension,
wherein the information is presented as an ordinary file system response to the
HTTP/WebDAV unaware application.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The method of Claim 6 wherein receiving a file system request comprises:
obtaining at least a uniform resource identifier (URI) and a request type.

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9. (Original) The method of Claim 8 wherein creating comprises:
selecting an appropriate WebDAV/HTTP method responsive to the request type.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 6 further comprising:
extracting an information from the response.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 10 wherein extracting comprises:
converting a WebDAV/HTTP status code to a corresponding local operating system error
code.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 10 further comprising:
creating a local cache file to store at least the information.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 12 wherein transferring comprises:

passing a file handle to the local cache file or at least a portion of the information.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 10 further comprising:

updating a local cache file responsive to the information.

15. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving, at an operating system extension, a file system request from an application program via an application program interface (API), the application program being unaware of a hypertext transfer protocol or distributed authoring and versioning (HTTP/WebDAV) protocol;

if the file system request involves a remote file system, forwarding the file system request to a network access application program (NAAP) communicatively coupled to the operating system extension, that creates a corresponding hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) or distributed authoring and versioning protocol (WebDAV) the NAAP creating an HTTP/WebDAV formatted request in response to the file system request (HTTP/WebDAV formatted request);

forwarding the HTTP/WebDAV formatted request to an appropriate WebDAV enabled HTTP server over the Internet;

receiving a response from the WebDAV enabled HTTP server in WebDAV or HTTP format such that the ~~network access application program~~ NAAP creates a reformatted response; and

transferring the reformatted response to the application program via the ~~application program interface~~ API as an ordinary file system response.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 15 wherein receiving a file system request comprises:
obtaining at least a uniform resource identifier (URI) and a request type.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 15 wherein receiving a response further comprises:
creating a local cache file to store an information extracted from the response.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 17 wherein transferring comprises:
passing a file handle to the local cache file or at least a portion of the information.

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19. (Original) The method of Claim 15 further comprising:
updating a local cache file responsive to an information extracted from the response.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 15 further comprising:
if the file system request involves a locally cached remote file system, obtaining
information responsive to the file system request from a local cache file.

21. (Original) The method of Claim 20 wherein receiving a file system request comprises:
extracting a file handle to the locally cached remote file system from the file system
request.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 20 wherein forwarding the request to a
~~seamless file system~~ the NAAP, forwarding the HTTP/WebDAV formatted request, and

receiving a response are bypassed when the file system request involves the locally cached remote file system.

23. (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium having stored thereon instructions which when executed by a processor cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

receiving, at an operating system extension, a file system request from an application program via an application program interface (API), the application being unaware of a hypertext transfer protocol or distributed authoring and versioning protocol (HTTP/WebDAV);

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if the file system request involves a remote file system, forwarding the file system request to a network access application program (NAAP) communicatively coupled to the operating system extension, ~~that creates a corresponding hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) or distributed authoring and versioning protocol (WebDAV) formatted request (HTTP/WebDAV formatted request)~~ the NAAP creating an HTTP/WebDAV formatted request in response to the file system request;

forwarding the HTTP/WebDAV formatted request to an appropriate WebDAV enabled HTTP server over the Internet;

receiving a response from the WebDAV enabled HTTP server in WebDAV or HTTP format such that the ~~network access application program~~ NAAP creates a reformatted response; and

transferring the reformatted response to the application program via the ~~application program interface~~ API as an ordinary file system response.

24. (Original) The machine readable medium of Claim 23 wherein receiving a file system request comprises:

obtaining at least a uniform resource locator (URL) and a request type.

25. (Original) The machine readable medium of Claim 24 wherein receiving a response comprises:

if a corresponding local cache file exists, updating the corresponding local cache file responsive to an information extracted from the response; and

if the corresponding local cache file does not exist, creating the corresponding local cache file to store the information extracted from the response.

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26. (Original) The machine readable medium of Claim 25 wherein transferring comprises:

passing a file handle to the corresponding local cache file or at least a portion of the information.

27. (Original) The machine readable medium of Claim 23 wherein the instructions executed by the processor cause the system to perform operations further comprising:

if the file system request involves a locally cached remote file system, obtaining information responsive to the file system request from a local cache file.

28. (Original) The machine readable medium of Claim 27 wherein receiving the file system request comprises:

extracting a file handle to the locally cached remote file system from the file system request.

29. (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of Claim 27 wherein forwarding the request to ~~a seamless file system~~ the NAAP, forwarding the HTTP/WebDAV formatted request, and receiving a response are bypassed when the file system request involves the locally cached remote file system.

30. (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium having stored thereon instructions which when executed by a processor cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

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A receiving a file system request involving a remote file system from an operating system extension, the operating system extension receiving the file system request as an ordinary file system request from an application unaware of a hypertext transfer protocol or distributed authoring and versioning (HTTP/ WebDAV) protocol;
creating a ~~hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) or distributed authoring and versioning (WebDAV) formatted request (HTTP/WebDAV formatted request)~~ an HTTP/WebDAV formatted request in response to the file system request;
forwarding the HTTP/WebDAV formatted request to an appropriate WebDAV enabled HTTP server;
receiving a response from the WebDAV enabled HTTP server; and
transferring an information contained in the response to the operating system extension, wherein the information is presented as an ordinary file system response to the HTTP/WebDAV unaware application.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Original) The machine readable medium of Claim 30 wherein receiving a file system request comprises:

obtaining at least a uniform resource identifier (URI) and a request type.

33. (Original) The machine readable medium of Claim 32 wherein creating comprises:

selecting an appropriate WebDAV/HTTP method responsive to the request type.

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34. (Original) The machine readable medium of Claim 30 wherein the instructions executed by the processor cause the system to perform operations further comprising:

extracting an information from the response.

35. (Original) The machine readable medium of Claim 30 wherein extracting comprises:

converting a WebDAV/HTTP status code to a corresponding local operating system error code.

36. (Original) The machine readable medium of Claim 34 wherein the instructions executed by the processor cause the system to perform operations further comprising:

creating a local cache file to store at least the information.

37. (Original) The machine readable medium of Claim 36 wherein transferring comprises:

passing a file handle to the local cache file or at least a portion of the information.

38. (Original) The machine readable medium of Claim 34 wherein the instructions executed by the processor cause the system to perform operations further comprising:

updating a local cache file responsive to the information.

39. (Original) A computer system comprising:

at least one application program;

an operating system providing a file system interface;

an operating system extension to receive from the file system interface of the operating

system a request for a remotely stored file that initiated from the application

program and to forward the request for the remotely stored file;

a network access application program to receive the request for the remotely stored file

from the operating system extension, to translate a file name information specified

in the request from a local file system syntax to a remote server syntax, and to

package the request according to a well known protocol for communication to a

user specified remote computer system over a network.

40. (Original) The computer system of Claim 39 wherein the network access application program reformats a response received from the user specified remote computer system, including reverse translating any file name information from a remote server syntax to a local file system syntax, and forwards a reformatted response to the operating system extension program.

41. (Original) The computer system of Claim 40 wherein the remote server syntax is the syntax of a uniform resource identifier (URI).

42. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving, at a file system of an operating system, a file system request from an application program;

if the file system request involves a remote file system on a remote computer system,

forwarding from the file system of the operating system the request to a network access application program which translates a file name information specified in the request from a local file system syntax to a remote server syntax and

communicates the request in a well known format to the remote computer system over a wide area network;

reformatting a response from the remote computer system forwarded by the remote access application program which reverse translates any file name information specified in the response from the remote server syntax to the local file system syntax; and

transferring the reformatted response to the application program.

43. (Original) The method of Claim 42 wherein receiving comprises:

obtaining the file system request via a local file system interface of an operating system.

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